

"having a career of firsts . . . a pacesetter, a role model and a champion of change." I find Ernie Talbert to be all of those things and much more. He is a distinguished leader, an insightful and honest man, and a true patriot. Recognizing General Talbert on Delaware Day, which signifies the birth of our Nation, seemed a much deserved honor.

A native of Wilmington, Delaware, General Talbert's military career began in 1973 as a United States Air Force pilot flying C-141s out of Charleston, South Carolina. His 26 years of distinguished service with the Delaware National Guard began in January 1979, and today he is a command pilot with 6,500 flying hours. General Talbert's career with the Delaware Air Guard has been noteworthy in the wide variety of positions he has held including Squadron Commander; Operations Group Commander; Wing Commander and Chief of Staff for the Delaware Air Guard.

General Talbert's impact is certainly not limited to the Delaware National Guard. He is actively involved in many professional and community organizations including the John Porter Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen; the Delaware Aviation Hall of Fame; the Brig. General Spruance Chapter of the Air Force Association; and the Central Baptist Church.

I congratulate Ernie Talbert for his years of extraordinary service and countless contributions to the Delaware National Guard and the community. General Talbert is an exemplary citizen, and on behalf of all Delawareans I would like to thank him and his family for the many sacrifices they have made during the past 26 years. His recent promotion to the rank of brigadier general is appropriate recognition for a remarkable career.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MAYOR JOHN J. SINDE OF WEST- CHESTER, IL

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2005

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mayor John J. Sinde of Westchester, IL.

Mayor Sinde passed away in the village he loved so dearly on November 17, 2005. After serving 24 years as mayor, Sinde retired from public life due to health issues.

Mayor Sinde was born in Chicago in 1925 and served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He married his wife Marilyn in 1954 and moved to Westchester in 1963. Ten years later he began his public service on the Park Board and was elected as Village President in 1981.

During his tenure as Mayor, Sinde oversaw the construction of Westchester's administrative building, post office, Westbrook Towers and the Westchester Park District swimming pool which was renamed for him in June.

Mayor Sinde also helped the village of Westchester to receive its own ZIP code, 60154. This act helped to lower insurance rates by allowing insurers to look at the village apart from neighboring communities. Additionally, he assisted in the development of the southwest part of Westchester, including the shopping center at 31st Street and Wolf Road, the subdivisions along Wolf Road, and Westbrook Towers.

It is my honor to recognize and pay tribute to the life of Mayor John J. Sinde who always had the best interests of the village of Westchester at heart.

TRIBUTE TO BOEING BREAKING THE WORLD RECORD FOR LONG- EST NON-STEP FLIGHT

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2005

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight a remarkable aviation achievement—a new world record for the longest nonstop distance flown by a commercial aircraft.

On October 9, 2005, a Boeing 777-200LR Worldliner touched down at London Heathrow Airport after completing a non-stop flight from Hong Kong, breaking its own world record set just 16 years earlier.

The Boeing 777-200LR, Boeing's newest aircraft, took the long way around, leaving Hong Kong and flying over the Northern Pacific ocean, crossing North America and then over the Atlantic Ocean to complete its record setting 11,664 mile flight, beating out the previous record by 1,164 miles.

The lead pilot for this remarkable flight was Captain Suzanna Darcy-Hennemann, who in the tradition of aviation pioneers like Amelia Earhart, is inspiring the next generation of young women pilots.

Mr. Speaker, this achievement is a milestone in the history of aviation. We have come a long way since Charles Lindbergh's first solo trans-Atlantic flight in 1927, which set the first world record.

I rise today to congratulate Boeing and its record setting crew, and to express on behalf of my constituents in Orange County, many of whom are Boeing employees themselves, my sincere appreciation of all that Boeing has done in service of American aviation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2005

Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, during an absence yesterday, I regrettably missed rollcall votes 609-611. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: Rollcall No. 609: "yea"; rollcall No. 610: "yea"; rollcall No. 611: "yea."

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISH- MENTS OF DR. JAMES A. BOYD

HON. ROGER F. WICKER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2005

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. James A. Boyd of Columbus, Mississippi, on the occasion of his 40th anniversary as pastor at Zion Gate Missionary Baptist Church. I want to join with the con-

gregation, his family, and friends in offering congratulations on this special recognition.

Dr. Boyd's dynamic presence in the pulpit and his leadership abilities have given him the opportunity to travel far and wide in service to God and country. He entered the ministry in 1965 when he became pastor of Zion Gate and El Bethel Missionary Baptist Churches in Columbus. He also taught English in the Columbus School System before choosing to become the fulltime pastor at Zion Gate in 1970.

Over the past four decades, Dr. Boyd has played leadership roles in countless organizations and served as evangelist for revivals, seminars, and conferences all across the nation. He is currently serving as president of the Northeast Mississippi Baptist State Convention, Inc., and is a board member of the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. He is Trustee/Chairman of the Ministerial Institute and College, Homiletic instructor at the college, and lecturer for the Mt. Olivet District Association.

Dr. Boyd is a native of Oktibbeha County, Mississippi, and graduated from Oktibbeha Training School before earning a bachelor's degree from Stillman College in 1964. He also attended Iowa State University and Mississippi State University. He received a doctorate of ministry at San Francisco Theological Seminary in San Anselmo, California. He also received a doctorate of divinity from Mary Holmes College in West Point, Mississippi, in 2002.

Dr. Boyd is married to the former Kathrene Peterson, and they have two daughters and three grandsons.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. James Boyd for his lifetime of service to God and country.

TRIBUTE TO PHIL RUBENSTEIN

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2005

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my good friend, Phil Rubenstein.

Throughout his career, Phil selflessly and passionately worked on behalf of the senior citizens in Ocean County, New Jersey, located in my congressional district. For 30 years, his federal career included work with both the Veterans and Social Security Administrations, and once he "retired", he began his second 30-year career—Director of the county's Office of Senior Services.

While leading this office, Phil strove to make seniors' lives better both through new innovations and by improving existing services. For example, he established a transportation system to assist elderly and disabled residents with rides to their radiation, chemotherapy and dialysis treatments—a system that won federal support. This is just one example of the many efforts Phil put forth on behalf of Ocean County seniors.

Phil's hard work and passion for helping seniors earned him numerous federal, state, county and community service awards, and a local medical center even dedicated its education center to him.

During my time in Congress, Phil and I worked closely on a number of issues. Over